



SCOTT-CARVER SUCCESS STORY:

Joyce Blue is a Scott-Carver success story.

Blue, 23, participated in the pharmacy training program offered at D.A. Dorsey Educational Center and worked at Walgreens for several months before starting a new position as a pharmacy technician at Care-Mart, a Miramar-business that processes subscriptions and prepares them for delivery via mail-order.



Blue lived in Carver homes for 21 years and is a mother of three children; two sons; Gregory, 4, and Ja'Kari, 3 and a 10-month old daughter, Lamaria.

"The opportunity that HOPE VI provided means a lot to me because without them, I probably would not have taken the time to complete my education, and I would not have become a pharmacy technician," Blue said. "It has given me the opportunity to care for my kids."

Blue plans to return to college to take additional pharmaceutical courses. She advises other residents to take advantage of educational opportunities and complete their education.

First Scott residents return to community thanks to Habitat

Kim Sheriff fought back tears of joy. **Mattie Lawton** was so grateful. They were both very glad to be back. The two received the keys to their new Habitat homes at a dedication ceremony held on site December 22, 2005; in the process, becoming the first residents to return to the community.

Miami-Dade County Commissioner **Dorrin D. Rolle**; **Cathy McCann**, president of the Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity of Miami; **Jose Cintron**, housing and development coordinator of the office of Public Housing, Miami field office of the Department of Housing and Urban Development; MDHA Director **Alphonso K. Brewster** as well as MDHA and Habitat staff were on hand to help the two families celebrate the occasion.



Left: **Kim Sheriff** receives her keys from Commissioner **Dorrin D. Rolle**; Right: the **Lawton** family poses in front of her home with Commissioner **Dorrin D. Rolle**, MDHA's **Alphonso K. Brewster**, Habitat's **Cathy McCann**, USHUD's **Jose Cintron**, and MDHA's **Rudy Perez**.

"This is a dream for these homeowners," Rolle said. "Now their kids can play in their own yards and they can drive up their own driveways. They have gone from renting to

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MDHA announces Leonard C. Freeman Subdivision



Leonard C. Freeman's family honored him, along with MDHA staff and MDC Commissioner **Dorrin D. Rolle**, in the recognition ceremony held at the BCC.

Miami-Dade County Commissioner **Dorrin D. Rolle** and MDHA Director **Alphonso K. Brewster** presented family members of the late Leonard C. Freeman with a proclamation and a framed copy of the plat for the Leonard C. Freeman Subdivision during a ceremony held in the Commission's chamber on November 17. The subdivision covers an L-shaped area located at the corner of NW 68th

Street and NW 22 Avenue within the Scott-Carver HOPE VI site. "I'm pleased to be able to give this recognition to someone who truly worked for his community," Rolle said.

Leonard C. Freeman, a construction rehabilitation specialist, worked with the HOPE VI revitalization program for five years. During that time, he earned the residents' respect and trust and was often known for "going beyond the call of duty" by performing tasks that were not part of his job description. Since the revitalization's early stages, he was sensitive to the concerns and fears of the affected residents and worked diligently to make sure that those concerns were addressed.

The ceremony touched the Freeman family. "This is something that is such an honor and the family appreciates all MDHA has done for Leonard," said his widow, **Patricia Freeman**. "My family and I are so proud of him and so grateful that he was able to impact the community in such a profound way."

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homeownership and I am especially proud of all the work performed from all the parties including MDHA, Habitat, and HUD."

Lawton, a 37-year resident of Scott Homes, was happy to celebrate the holidays in her new home with her family. "I would just like to say that I am very glad to be moving in to my new home and I would like to thank HOPE VI and Habitat for making it possible for me and my family to move into our new dream home," said Lawton.

Kim Sheriff, a mother of two who lived in Scott for 12 years, lives next door. She

thanked MDHA and Habitat staff for their support towards becoming a homeowner.

Lawton and Sheriff used their Section 8 vouchers to purchase their 4 bedroom/2 bath and 3 bedroom/1 bath homes.

Brewster praised the construction of the new homes in the area.

"We are seeing the rebirth of the Scott-Carver community with the development of these lots and look forward to seeing many of the former residents return to the community," he said. "You are the pioneers, the first to see us deliver on our promise."

SECTOR 1 UPDATE

Underground utility work in Sector 1 is 90 percent complete and the above-ground curb and gutter work is now underway. All site work is scheduled to be completed by May, 2006. Construction of the 52 single-family homes is expected to begin later this spring.

MDHA recently announced that Habitat for Humanity of Greater Miami, which has completed four homes and has almost completed the fifth, has partnered with MDHA to build the remaining 52 homes in Sector 1. Habitat was selected based on their prior success with the HOPE VI Revitalization Program and because of their commitment to subcontract with small and local businesses.

Scott-Carver Homes residents will be able to return to a new public housing unit or become homeowners according to the recently-approved return policy.

MDHA is compiling a return list in accordance with the return policy for residents interested in purchasing homes in Sector 1. Once the transfer list is established, residents may request to be added; however, their priority on the list may be affected. Residents were recently mailed a form to fill out regarding a request for transfer back to the community. Residents must return the completed forms to H.J. Russell & Company, 7226 NW 22 Ave., Miami, FL 33147 by April 30.

Residents interested in becoming homeowners may qualify if they meet the following criteria:

- Section 8 voucher holders must have a \$10,300 minimum earned annual income, or disabled. Employment should be full-time for one year minimum, preferably two. The Section 8 Homeownership program allows voucher assistance



Work is well underway at Sector I of the HOPE VI target area.

payments to be applied towards mortgage payments instead of rental payments, thereby enabling you to purchase a home for approximately the same monthly rental payments which you are now making.

- If you reside in Public Housing and desire to purchase a Sector 1 home, your income must be sufficient to pay a mortgage, property taxes, and homeowner insurance costs.
- Families must be able to provide the minimum down payment and closing costs required under the mortgage program. (Funds may be available from the County and lending institutions offering assistance to promote affordable homeownership).
- Credit must be acceptable for the banks financing the purchase of your home.

A total of 251 single-family homes and townhomes will be available when the entire revitalization is completed. Residents who wish to return to public housing development within the community will have access to 160 units of public housing. ■

SCOTT-CARVER RESIDENTS CAN KEEP IN TOUCH

Former Scott-Carver residents interested in keeping their contact information current can go to the agency's website www.miamidade.gov/housing and click on the *Keep in Touch* form. This form gives you the opportunity to let us continue to provide you with information regarding the relocation process. Go ahead and send a form in, we need to hear from you.



HOME BUYER'S CLUB MEETINGS

Scott-Carver residents interested in homeownership can attend monthly meetings to get valuable information on homeownership opportunities as well as meeting area housing lenders. The Homebuyer Club meetings are usually held on the third Thursday of the month, from 6-7pm. New location is the Urban League's McDuffie Center, 8400 NW 25th Avenue. For more info, call the Urban League at 305-836-5196.



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